

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated January 25, 2006, the Examiner allows claim 20 and objects to claims 5-6 and 16-19. The independent claims are claims 1, 7 and 20. Allowed claim 20 remains unchanged. Applicant has amended claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 16, and 18.

A. Allowable Subject Matter of Objected-To Claims Incorporated into Independent Claims

Regarding the objected-to claims, the Examiner states that "the prior art of the record do not disclose the system of claims 1, wherein the modular hardware detector is further configured to obtain a size of the previous device driver and to obtain a size of the new device driver for the new hardware component to determine the need to allocate space in the data storage area for the new device driver."

In response to the objected-to claims, Applicant incorporates the elements of objected to dependent claim 5 into independent claim 1. Similarly, Applicant incorporates similar allowable elements into the independent method claim 7. As such, Applicant respectfully asserts that the independent claims 1 and 7 are now patentable over the cited art as Applicant has amended these claims to comprise the allowable element(s). The remaining claims are dependent upon allowable independent base claims, and therefore, the dependent claims also are allowable.

B. CONCLUSION

Applicant asserts that claims 1-20 are now allowable and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance for claims 1-20.

Should the Examiner believe that prosecution of this application might be expedited by further discussion of the issues, he is invited to telephone the attorney for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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